

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification as follows.

Page 6, amend the paragraph beginning on line 22 as follows:

(1) A martensitic stainless steel comprising C: 0.01 – 0.10%, Si: 0.05 – 1.0%, Mn: 0.05 – 1.5%, P: not more than 0.03%, S: not more than 0.01%, Cr: 9 – 15%, Ni: 0.1 – 4.5%, Al: not more than 0.05% and N: not more than 0.1% ~~in mass %~~, and further comprising at least one of Cu: 0.05 – 5% and Mo: 0.05 – 5% in mass %, the residual being Fe and impurities, wherein the contents of Cu and Mo satisfy the following formula (a),

$$0.2\% \leq \text{Mo} + \text{Cu}/4 \leq 5\% \quad \dots (a)$$

and wherein the hardness is 30 – 45 in HRC and the amount of carbides in grain boundaries of the prior austenite is not more than 0.5 volume %.

Page 7, amend the paragraph beginning on line 2 as follows:

(2) A martensitic stainless steel comprising C: 0.01 – 0.10%, Si: 0.05 – 1.0%, Mn: 0.05 – 1.5%, P: not more than 0.03%, S: not more than 0.01%, Cr: 9 – 15%, Ni: 0.1 – 4.5%, Al: 0.05% and N: not more than 0.1% ~~in weight %~~, and further comprising at least one of Cu: 0 – 5% and Mo: 0 – 5% in mass%, the residual being Fe and impurities, wherein the contents of Cu and Mo satisfy the following formula (b),

$$0.55\% \leq \text{Mo} + \text{Cu}/4 \leq 5\% \quad \dots (b)$$

and wherein the hardness is 30 – 45 in HRC and the amount of carbides in grain boundaries of the prior austenite is not more than 0.5 volume %.

Page 7, amend the paragraph beginning on line 10 as follows:

(3) The martensitic stainless steel (1) or (2) may contain one or more elements in the following Groups A and B, if required:

Group A; Ti: 0.005 – 0.5%, V: 0.005 – 0.5% and Nb: 0.005 – 0.5% in mass%, and

Group B; B: 0.0002 – 0.005%, Ca: 0.0003 – 0.005%, Mg: 0.0003 – 0.005% and rare earth elements: 0.0003 – 0.005% in mass%.

Page 12, amend the paragraph beginning on line 4 as follows:

Figs. 1 and 2 show the influence of the Mo and Cu content on the sulfide stress cracking resistance in the corrosive environments of pH 3.75 and pH 4.0, respectively. The test material used was 0.04% C-11% Cr-2% Ni-Cu-Mo steel, as described above. An actual yield stress was added to the respective four-point bend test with smooth specimen at 25° under test conditions of 300 Pa (0.003 bar) H₂S + 3MPa (30 bar) CO₂, 5% NaCl and pH 3.75 or pH 4.0, and the generation of cracks after 336 hours in the test was inspected. Marks ○ and ● in these diagrams indicate the non-existence and [[non-]]existence of sulfide stress cracking, respectively.